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## DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL ACTIONS

thereof as the prison commissioners by rules shall fix, to be disposed of as follows: On the release of the prisoner the money so retained, and money received by him under the provision of section three, and held by him at the time of the prisoner's release, shall be used by him, in his discretion, either for the purchase of clothing or other articles for the prisoner, or by paying the same, or any part thereof, either to him, or to the agent for discharged prisoners, to be expended by him for the benefit of the prisoner.

SECTION 3. The remainder of the money, if any, received by the warden or superintendent as aforesaid shall be disposed of as follows: At his request, the same, or any part thereof, may be deposited by the warden or superintendent, in trust for the prisoner, in a bank designated by him; or may be paid to his dependents, or be expended by the warden or superintendent for *articles* for his use. The prison commissioners, from time to time, shall designate by rule the articles which may be purchased for the use of prisoners, and no expenditures shall be made of money received as aforesaid for articles not permitted under said rule, except by vote of said commissioners, upon the recommendation of the warden or superintendent.

Any money received by the warden or superintendent, and not disposed of as hereinbefore provided prior to, or at the time of, the prisoner's release, may be retained until the expiration of the full term of the prisoner's sentence. At any time during that period the whole or any part of the same may be paid to the prisoner or expended for his benefit, and it shall be so paid at the time of such expiration.

Money in the hands of the warden or superintendent shall, at all times, be subject to forfeiture, under such rules as the prison commissioners from time to time shall make. Money so forfeited and money held for a prisoner who escapes from prison or for one who dies in the prison or on parole shall be disposed as directed by the commissioners, by rule or otherwise.

SECTION 4. If the prison commissioners shall at any time provide for grading the prisoners held in the state prison, the payment authorized by section one of this act shall be paid, thereafter, only to persons in the two highest grades, and the amount to be so paid may be increased to four dollars per month.

R. H. G.

**Relative to the Punishment for Murder in the Second Degree.**—(Mass. House, 1065.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section two of chapter two hundred and seven of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof these words:—or for any term of years not less than twenty,—so as to read as follows.—*Section 2.* Whoever is guilty of murder in the first degree shall suffer the punishment of death, and whoever is guilty of murder in the second degree shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life, or for any term of years not less than twenty.

R. H. G.

**To Provide for the Disposition of Criminal Actions on Information of the District Attorney.**—(Mass. House, 1069.) Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. On the written petition of any person charged with felony,